



Recreation Department

PARK COMMISSIONERS

Shirley Canniff
Leslie Mayer
Jen Rothenberg
Phil Lasker
Scott Walker
Josh Fenollosa - Associate
Sarah Carrier- Associate

MEETING NOTICE

The Park and Recreation Commission
Tuesday, January 9, 2024
7:00 PM – Arlington Community Center (2nd Floor)

AGENDA

- 1) Mini Pitch System Discussion –Max McKersie
- 2) CPA Proposal Minuteman Bikeway Redesign and Potential Impact on Summer Street Field – John Alessi
- 3) Blue Bike Location Proposal – North Union Field and Crosby Field – John Alessi
- 4) Friends of Crusher Lot CDBG Request for Tree Inventory – Alan Jones
- 5) Comments and Items for Future Meetings:
 - a) Permitting of alcohol events on property under Park Commission jurisdiction
- 6) Correspondence Received: Weitong Sun (Daycare Playground Permitting)
- 7) Minute Approval – 12/12/2023
- 8) New Business
 - a) Artificial Turf Committee Update –Joe Connelly and Leslie Mayer
- 9) Public Comment

Mini-Pitch: Identify Your Site!

A mini-pitch is a customized, hard court soccer space suited for communities where space is at a premium. To address the lack of access to soccer facilities for structured programming and free play, our **Safe Places to Play** program transforms underutilized spaces into these state-of-the-art soccer mini-pitches. The brightly colored spaces also transform the look and feel of neighborhoods.

Examples of existing sites have included schoolyards, tennis courts, basketball courts, and parking lots.

BEFORE



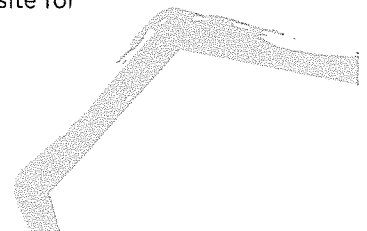
AFTER



Existing Site Requirements

- Asphalt or concrete surface
- Surface dimensions of 45ft x 80ft or greater
- Surface does not have substantial defects (i.e. wide cracks, heaving, potholes) or other obstacles (i.e. drains, permanent walls).
- Surface is accessible by a telehandler or forklift for installation (or fence can be temporarily removed so this can occur).
- No planned renovations to the site for at least 6 years

1



Safe Places to Play Mini-Pitch



Safe Places to Play Mini-Pitch

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To increase access to soccer in underserved communities, the U.S. Soccer Foundation works with community partners nationwide to offer *Soccer for Success*, a high-quality after-school program that is proven to deliver positive health and social outcomes for participants.



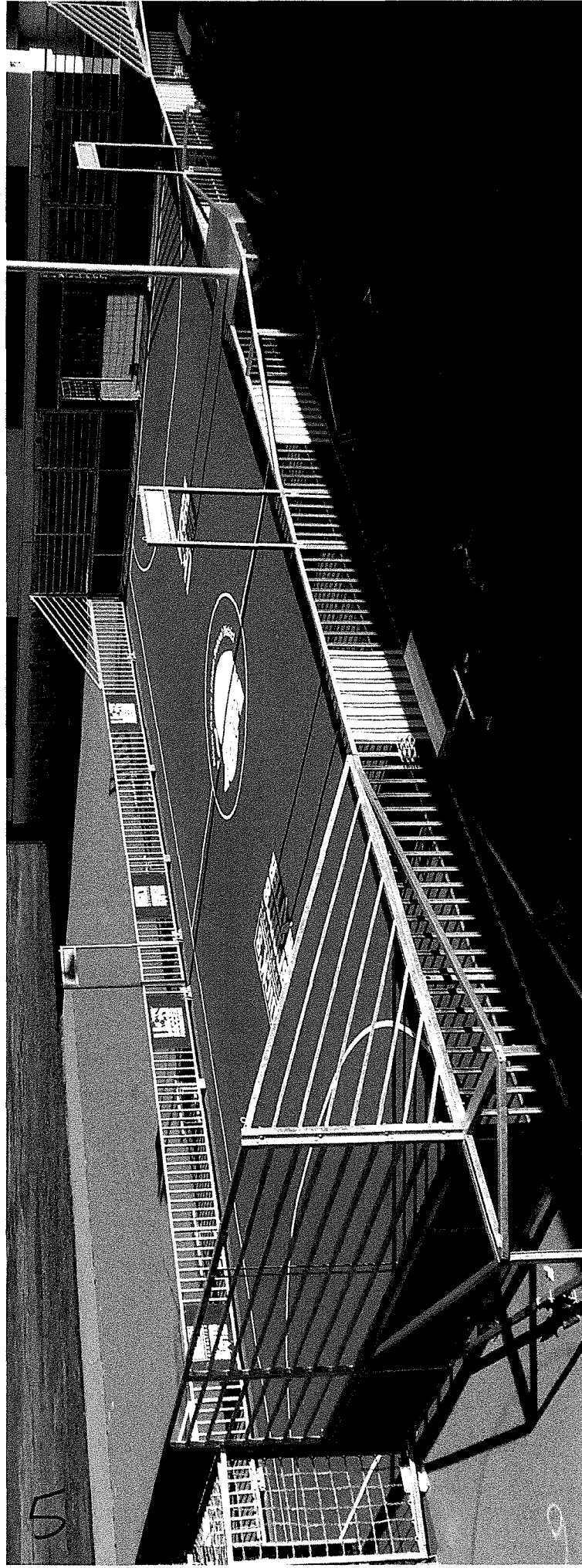
To address the lack of access to soccer facilities for structured programming and free play, our *Safe Places to Play* program transforms underutilized spaces into state-of-the-art soccer pitches for kids. Mini-pitches – small, customized, hard court spaces – are perfectly suited for communities where space is at a premium. The brightly colored pitches also transform the look and feel of neighborhoods.

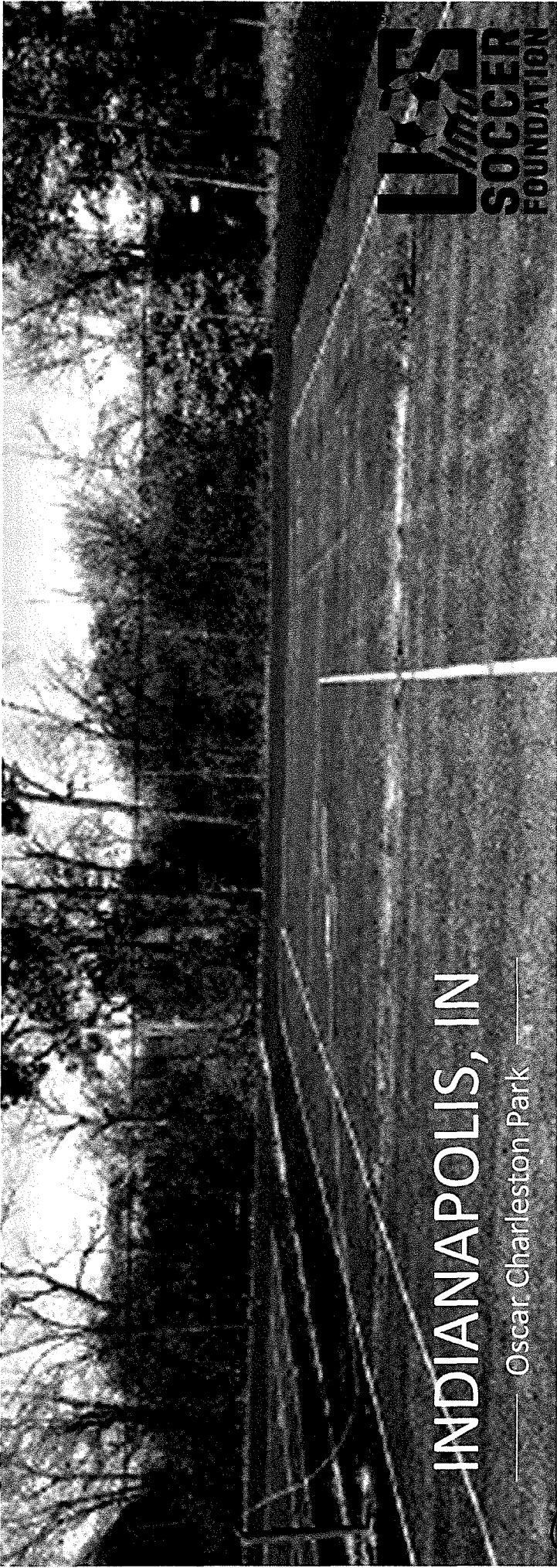


LOUISVILLE, KY

— Petersburg Park —



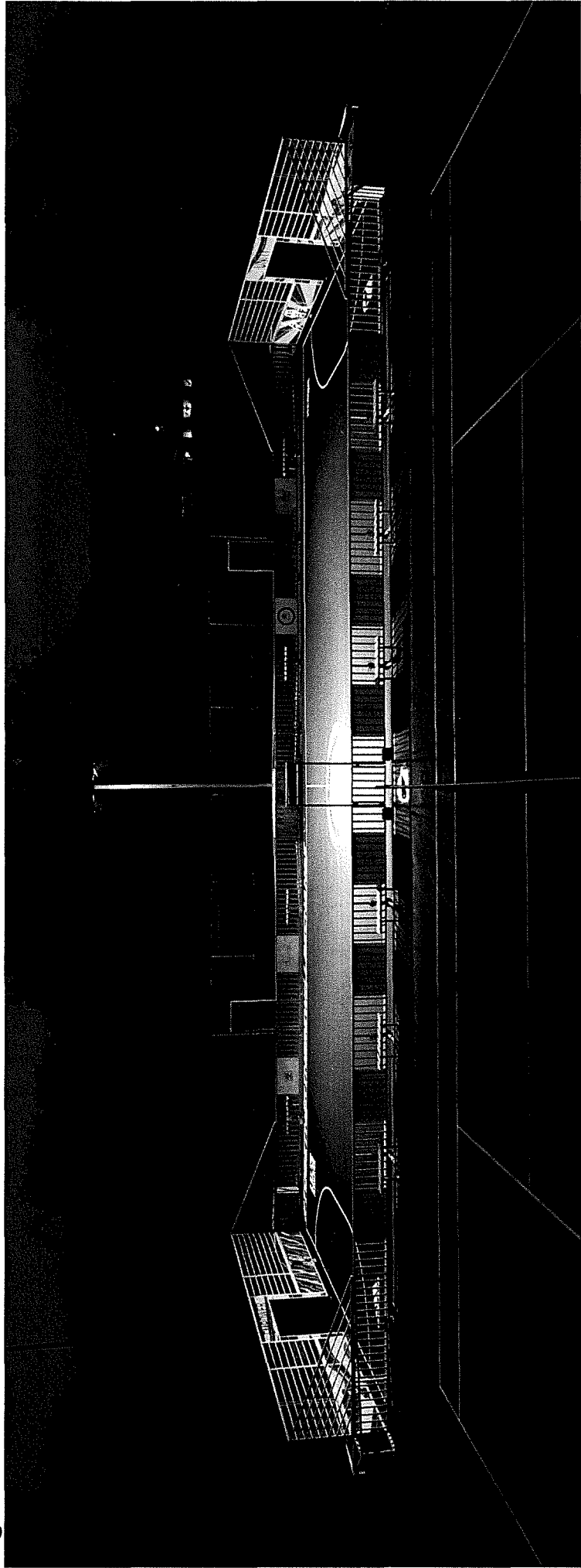


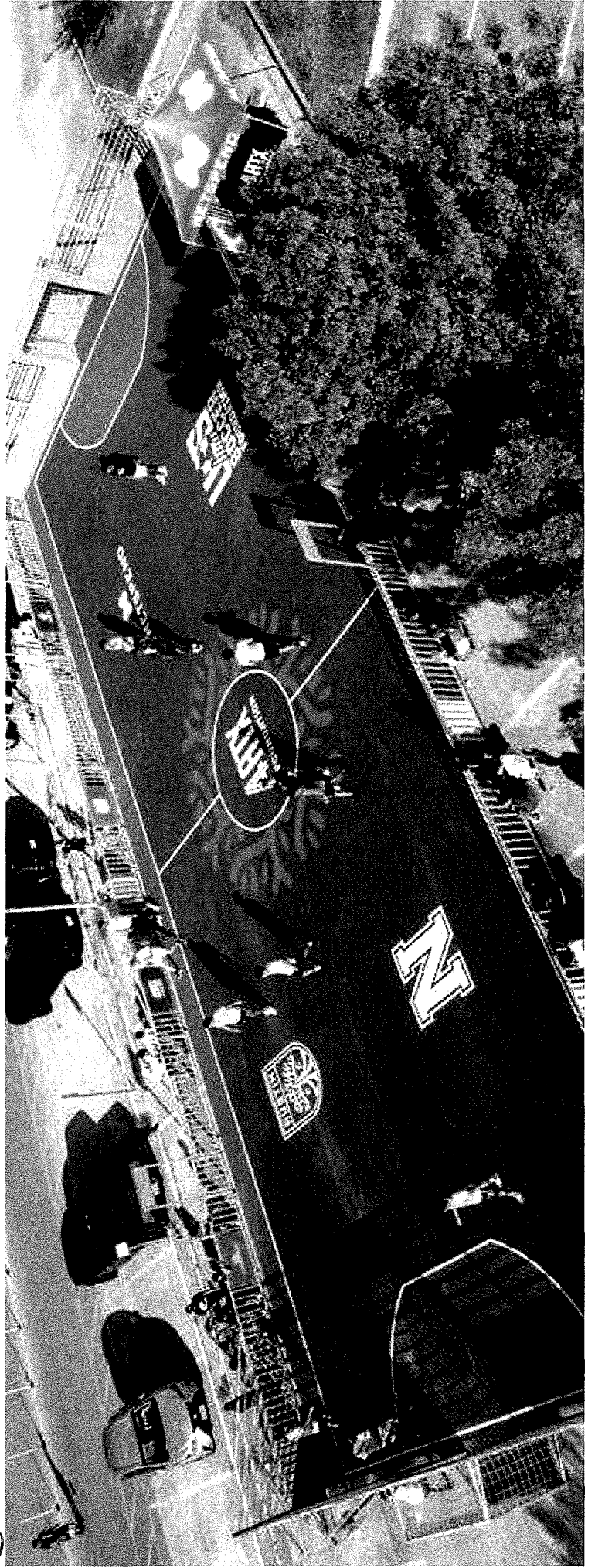


INDIANAPOLIS, IN

— Oscar Charleston Park —

6







PHOENIX, AZ

— Desert West Park —

MANCHESTER, NH

— Gossler Park Elementary School —



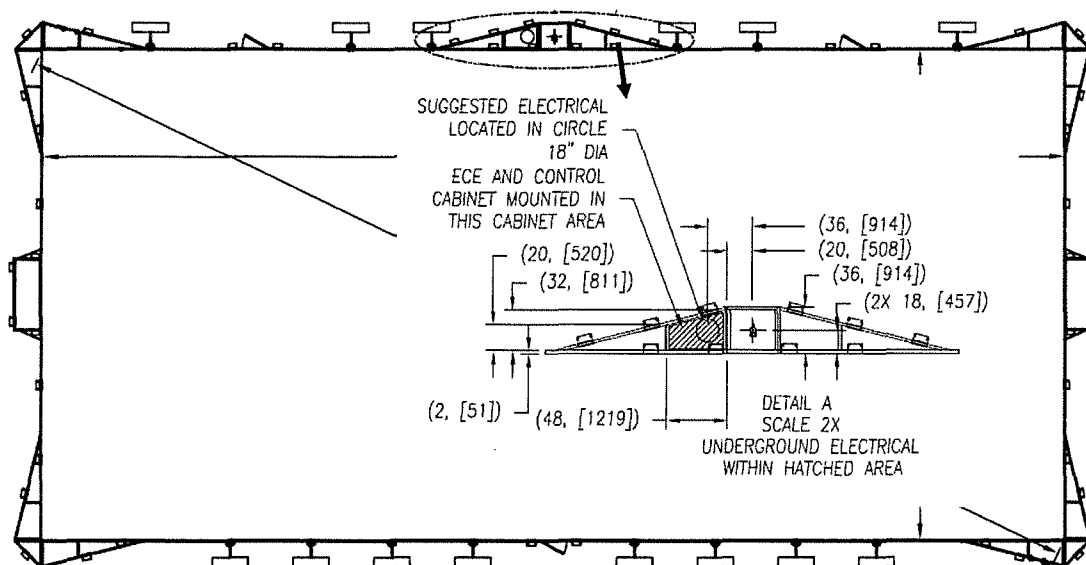
MUSCO MINI-PITCH SYSTEM™

MINIMUM SITE REQUIREMENTS



In order to qualify as a potential Musco Mini-Pitch System building site, you must meet the following minimum requirements.

- Asphalt or concrete pad
- Pad must be a minimum of 4' (1.22m) longer and 3' (0.91m) wider than what is needed for the Mini-Pitch System. For safety purposes we recommend 10' (3.05m) longer and 10' (3.05m) wider.
- Pad must be consistent and uniform in grade
- Pad must not have substantial defects (i.e. wide cracks, heaving, potholes, etc.), or other obstacles (i.e. drains, basketball poles, etc.) on playing surface
- Pad has to be accessible by telehandler for installation
- Access to electrical for lighting options
 - See next page for electrical requirements



MUSCO MINI-PITCH SYSTEM™

MINIMUM SITE REQUIREMENTS



We Make It Happen®

Electrical Requirements: Two circuits needed to be brought to a single point on the mini-pitch (see diagram on the previous page); a 120v control circuit and a lighting circuit. The lighting circuit needs a minimum of 208v single phase, but other options are available.

- 120v control circuit allows the lights to operate and be scheduled. The circuit draws less than an amp. A control transformer can be utilized in certain applications.
- The lighting circuit can be 208v, 240v, or 347v. The draw on the lighting circuit depends on the voltage (see table below). A single mini-pitch has two lights while a double has four lights. The values in the tables are for a single fixture. All lighting circuits are single-phase.
- A single mini-pitch has one connection point and can be on either sideline.
- A double mini-pitch has poles on both sidelines and will need a feed brought to one sideline. In addition, there must be a conduit between the two poles to feed the second pole—similar to a switch leg.

	200 Vac 50/60 Hz	208 Vac 60 Hz	220 Vac 50/60 Hz	230 Vac 50 Hz	240 Vac 50/60 Hz	277 Vac 60 Hz	347 Vac 60 Hz	380 Vac 50/60 Hz	400 Vac 50 Hz	415 Vac 50 Hz	480 Vac 60 Hz
Max operating current per luminaire¹	3.32 A	3.19 A	3.02 A	2.89 A	2.77 A	2.40 A	1.92 A	1.75 A	1.66 A	1.60 A	1.39 A

Community Preservation Act Committee Town of Arlington

CPA Funding – FY2025 Preliminary Application

One (1) electronic copy of the completed application must be submitted to the CPAC **no later than October 6, 2023** in order to be considered for advancement to the final application stage, with the electronic copy sent to JWayman@town.arlington.ma.us.

This PDF form may be completed on a computer using Adobe Reader.

1. General Information

Project Title: Minuteman Bikeway Redesign at Ryder St and Ed Burns Arena

Applicant/Contact: John Alessi, Senior Transportation Planner

Organization: Town of Arlington, Department of Planning & Community Development

Mailing Address: 730 Massachusetts Ave, Town Hall Annex, Arlington, MA 02474

Telephone: 781-316-3093 E-mail: jalessi@town.arlington.ma.us

2. CPA Eligibility (refer to the chart on page A-3)

CPA Category (select one):

☐ Community Housing ☐ Historic Preservation ☐ Open Space ☒ Recreation

CPA Purpose (select one):

☐ Acquisition ☐ Creation ☐ Preservation ☐ Support ☒ Rehabilitation & Restoration

3. Budget

Amount Requested: \$98,800 Total Project Cost: \$98,800

Signature  EDF6B46225D64E6... Date 10/5/23

Please complete the project description on the following page

Brief Project Description and Rationale

Include the address/location and current owner of the property, as well as any critical dates. Describe the benefit of the project to the community. Attach supplemental information (photographs, drawings, documents, etc.) as desired. Include a brief rationale for your responses to the CPA category and purpose checkboxes on the cover page.

Enter your response below this line

The Department of Planning & Community Development is seeking funds to redesign the Minuteman Bikeway at Ryder Street and the Ed Burns Arena. This is a recommended project from the Minuteman Bikeway Planning Project, completed in 2022 and funded by the CPA in FY 2021. An overview of the project outlined in the plan is attached to this application. The project would include the following components:

- Create a splitter island and crossing for Bikeway access from Ryder Street and the Burns Arena parking lot.
- Provide wayside pull-offs along the Bikeway to support access and viewing of the playground, baseball field, and basketball court.
- Create a pedestrian plaza at the end of Ed Burns Arena parking lot next to the Bikeway.
- Install a new sidewalk adjacent to the Summer Street Field starting at the Summer Street intersection and continuing to the Bikeway.
- Remove the fence between the Bikeway and the Summer Street Field for improved connectivity.
- Widen the Bikeway in the footprint of this project to increase trail capacity between Forest Street and Hill's Hill Playground.
- Maintain ability for Public Works vehicles to enter and exit the Bikeway for maintenance.

The scope of this project includes the following key elements that will take approximately nine months to complete from contract to completion:

- Contracting with a landscape architect to conduct a land survey and identify property lines, utilities, existing structures, vegetation, etc; develop more detailed sketch and concept plans based on the schematic design and recommendations from the Minuteman Bikeway Planning Project; and develop cost estimates for construction of the project in a future phase.
- Public engagement on developing the concept plan for the project.
- Coordination with key stakeholders, including the Parks & Recreation Commission, Recreation Department, Public Works, and the MBTA.

This project will improve upon the existing Bikeway connection at Ryder Street to the many park resources already available at the Ed Burns Arena and Hill's Hill. This project will also improve Bikeway access at Ryder Street on the south side that allows travel to the Ottoson Middle School, the Arlington Heights business district, and the new housing project at 1165R Mass Ave. There is strong interest from the community to create spaces along the Bikeway for greater staying and resting, improved safety and access for all users, and better integrating amenities and destinations along the corridor. This project is also listed as a high priority recommendation in the Minuteman Bikeway Planning Project and is in line with recommendations in the Connect Arlington - Sustainable Transportation Plan.

The Town of Arlington leases the Minuteman Bikeway property from the MBTA, which owns the rail corridor. It is maintained and operated under the authority of the Town Manager. The MBTA has a process for approving changes to the property and encroachments, and Town staff will engage with the MBTA early on in this process to ensure they are aware of this project and can share any concerns prior to the Town seeking approval to make changes that are recommended from this project.

Ryder Street / Summer Street Field / Burns Arena

Ryder Street is an important cross connection between Summer Street and Massachusetts Avenue and - although closed to vehicles - the road provides both bike and pedestrian access to the Minuteman Bikeway. Given its location between Summer Street Field and the Ed Burns Arena, this location serves as both a trailhead and a major destination for recreation.

Given its ample parking, open space, restrooms & snack bar (rink), playgrounds, and courts, this trailhead is a major destination for residents. Improvements that better express the relationship and synergy between the Bikeway and the facilities would be a win-win. Removing the fence would visually link the Bikeway and this major open space.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Incorporate missing pedestrian and bike connections between Summer Street and the Minuteman Bikeway.
- Develop a pedestrian plaza area alongside the Burns Arena.
- Create a splitter island and crossing for bikeway access from Ryder Street.
- Provide wayside pull-offs along the Minuteman Bikeway to support access and viewing of the playground, baseball field, and basketball court.
- Consider removing the fence between the Bikeway and the Summer Street Field for improved connectivity.
- Maintain ability for Public Works vehicles to enter and exit the Bikeway for maintenance

TRAILHEAD COMPONENT OPPORTUNITIES

- Landmark pylon, locational kiosk, and interpretive kiosk wayfinding
- Seating
- Views
- Landscaping and plantings
- Pull-off area
- Trash receptacles
- Bike parking and repair station
- Bike share station
- Amenities to support existing multi-use fields

NEXT STEPS

Survey, conceptual design and public outreach.

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Figure 72. Schematic Plan of Improvements - Ryder Street / Summer Street Field / Ed Burns Arena



Public Records Notice

Please be advised that pursuant to G.L. c. 4 sec. 7(26) email correspondence to and from public employees is considered a public record. Only where the content of an email falls within one of the stated exemptions within the law may the Town withhold documents or information.

From: John Alessi <jalessi@town.arlington.ma.us>
Sent: Tuesday, December 19, 2023 8:52 AM
To: Joe Connelly <jconnelly@town.arlington.ma.us>
Subject: Bluebikes

Morning Joe,

I wanted to touch base with you about siting permanent Bluebikes stations at Arlington's parks/fields. I'm assuming my predecessor Daniel worked with you in the past to install asphalt pads for the existing stations at Thorndike Field and Spot Pond. I'm interested in installing new stations at North Union Park and Crosby Park. I obviously wanted to chat with you before moving forward with any potential planning. Have you got a moment to chat today or tomorrow on the phone, or even to do a couple site visits?

John

John Alessi | *he/him/his*
Senior Transportation Planner
Department of Planning and Community Development
Town of Arlington
Direct: 781-316-3093
jalessi@town.arlington.ma.us

Upcoming out of office dates: 12/22 – 12/25, 1/1 – 1/5

Arlington values equity, diversity, and inclusion. We are committed to building a community where everyone is heard, respected, and protected.

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I'd be happy to join the Jan 9th agenda. Just an FYI – Based on our conversation, I removed the part of the project scope that involved creating the path connection to Summer St since your parking study/design project will incorporate that. I'm assuming that was members' main concerns, but still happy to come and talk about it.

Regarding the North Union Bluebikes station – Would the attached example diagram suffice as materials to be provided before the meeting?

John



John Alessi | Sr. Transportation Planner | Town of Arlington | 781-316-3093

From: Joe Connelly <jconnelly@town.arlington.ma.us>

Sent: Tuesday, December 19, 2023 9:06 AM

To: John Alessi <jalessi@town.arlington.ma.us>

Subject: Re: Bluebikes

Hi John,

We should hold on on Crosby as we are in the request for design phase for this project and we can incorporate that into that project if successful. This is a conversation that needs to be with the Park Commission in regards to North Union. I know the Commission also wanted to discuss the CPA request concerning the bikepath clean-up at Summer Street. Do you want to be on the January 9th agenda?

Joseph Connelly, M.Ed.

Director of Recreation

Town of Arlington

781-316-3889

jconnelly@town.arlington.ma.us

in



Corporate Headquarters
295 South Water Street, Suite 300
Kent, OH 44240
800.828.8312

Local Office
3 Industrial Drive, Suite A
Shrewsbury, MA 01545
959.888.1019

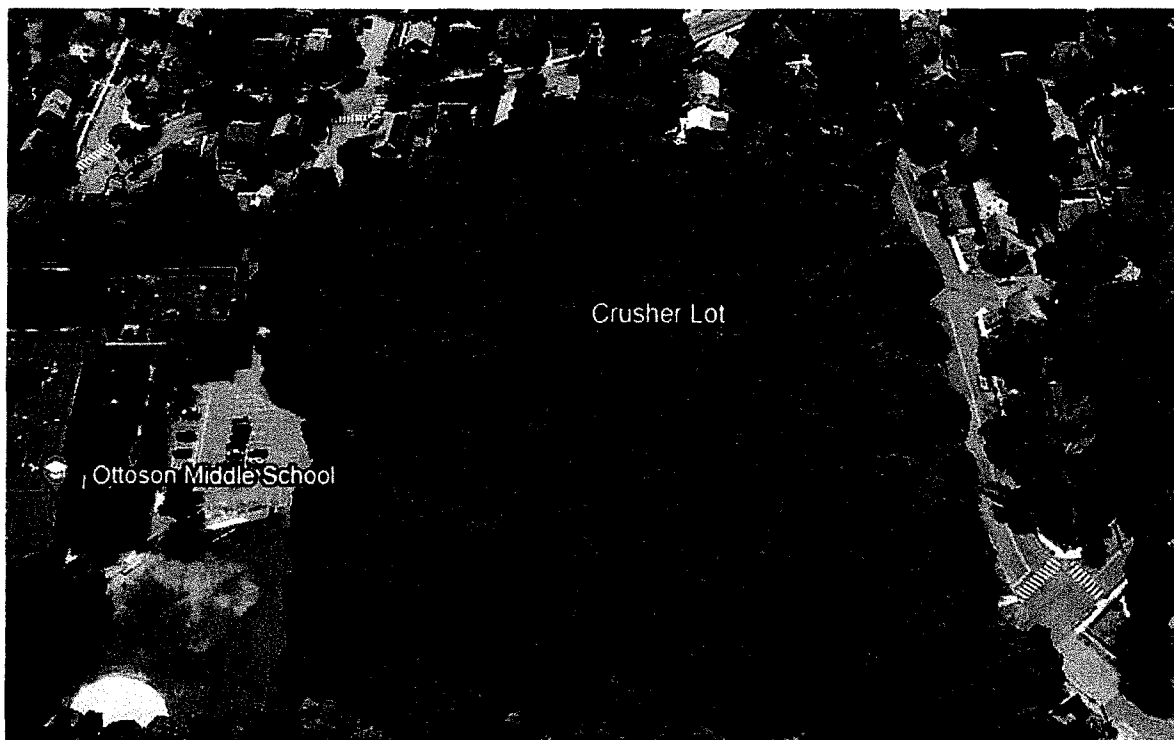
December 1st, 2023

Joe Connelly
Director of Recreation
Town of Arlington, MA

RE: Crusher Lot Tree Inventory

Dear Mr. Connelly,

Thank you for contacting Davey Resource Group, Inc. "DRG" regarding tree inventory services. In support of your objective to inventory the urban woodlot trees in Crusher Lot, DRG is pleased to present a pricing estimate for a tree inventory of the ~4-5 acre wooded area behind Ottoson Middle School in Arlington, MA. Through DRG and our dedicated team of arboricultural specialists, you will be assured of quality arborist services and professional assessments to help you achieve your long-term goals.



Crusher Lot is a small wooded urban area with trails located behind Ottoson Middle School.

Tree Inventory

A DRG arborist will inspect and inventory all significant trees within the designated area of Crusher Lot. The designated area is bounded by playing fields and a parking area behind Ottoson Middle School to the northeast,

residential backyards to the southeast, Gray Street to the southwest, and is less clearly defined to the northwest where a strip of undeveloped land between residential properties abuts the lot. DRG requests that this boundary be flagged or otherwise marked prior to inventory to ensure that all trees collected are property of the town of Arlington and that the inventory does not trespass on private property. If the boundary of the lot is not the residential backyards to the southeast, DRG requests that boundary also be firmly defined before the inventory. Significant trees in the project area are defined as trees greater than or equal to 4.0 inches diameter-at-breast-height (DBH). The arborist will perform a visual assessment of each tree's current condition and size and will conduct a risk assessment for each tree.

THE DATA COLLECTION WILL INCLUDE:

- **Tree location** on the property using aerial imagery and internal device GPS.
- **Tree ID Number** - a unique numeric identifier for each tree.
- **Tree genus and species.** Dead trees without distinguishing characteristics will not be speciated. DRG does not typically speciate apples/crabapples, yews, cherries (except for black cherry), hawthorns, or serviceberries. If full speciation of these genera is necessary, please contact DRG for revised pricing.
- **DBH** - measured at 4.5 feet above ground level. Where trees have multiple stems at DBH height, the arborist will record the DBH of the largest stem.
- **Multi-Stem Tree** - yes/no. A multi-stem tree is defined as having more than one stem at DBH height.
- **Condition** - good, fair, poor, or dead. Trees in good condition have no significant defects. Trees in fair condition have defects which may be resolved with time such as superficial wounds or small amounts of dead wood in the crown. Trees in poor condition have significant defects which cannot be resolved with time, such as stem decay. Dead trees show no signs of life.
- **Prohibited Species** - yes/no. A prohibited species is defined, for the purpose of this inventory, as a tree found on the Massachusetts Prohibited Plant List, available here: <https://www.mass.gov/service-details/massachusetts-prohibited-plant-list>. Trees included on the list at the time of this inventory are: Amur cork-tree, black locust, common buckthorn*, glossy buckthorn*, autumn olive*, gray willow*, Japanese black pine, large gray willow*, Norway maple, sycamore maple, and tree-of-heaven.
 - *may grow in shrub or tree form. Only individuals growing as trees will be collected during the inventory.
- **Maintenance Need** - remove, prune, none. Trees will be recommended for removal if they are dead or have irrecoverable defects which may cause them to be a hazard if near walking trails, backyards, structures, or other publicly accessible areas. Trees will be recommended for pruning if they have dead or defective limbs 2" diameter or larger. Please note that maintenance may only be required for trees which are near paths or other areas where people may congregate. The town may choose to maintain other trees at their discretion.
- **Risk Assessment & Rating** - see below.

RISK ASSESSMENT AND RATING:

During the inventory, DRG's urban foresters perform an inspection of each tree that follows the ANSI tree risk assessment (ANSI 2017). For the town's inventory, DRG will complete a 360-degree ground-based visual inspection of the crown, trunk, trunk flare, above-ground roots, and site conditions around the tree in relation to targets. The assessment only includes conditions detected from the ground. Visual inspection does not include aerial or subterranean inspection, testing, or analysis unless stated in the scope of work. DRG is not responsible for the discovery or identification of non-visually observable, latent, dormant, or hidden conditions

or hazards. If desired, DRG can provide additional levels of assessment or analysis for an additional fee that might help identify or further explore specific defects or tree conditions of interest.

The specified period for the risk assessment is one year. The risk part of this inventory and evaluation is to keep in compliance with the most recent standards and practices in the arboricultural industry. It is important to note that DRG's inspections are "rapid assessments" and are meant to show a need for further study; the assessments are not legally binding in any litigation.

For the tree risk assessment, DRG's urban foresters assign each tree one qualitative risk rating using the risk categorization matrices found in the ISA's Best Management Practices - Tree Risk Assessment, Second Edition (E. Thomas Smiley, Nelda Matheny, and Sharon Lilly 2017). Various and multiple failure scenarios help determine a tree's risk rating. The failure mode (i.e., branch, whole tree, codominant stem) with the most significant risk serves as the overall tree risk rating.

DELIVERABLES WILL INCLUDE:

- **Excel spreadsheet** of data collected
- **Map** showing tree location and tree ID numbers over aerial imagery of the project area (see Appendix A for an example of what this map will look like).

TIMELINE:

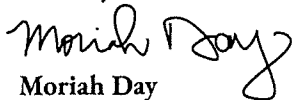
Provided all contract paperwork is complete by December 8th, all fieldwork will be completed and deliverables provided before December 31, 2023.

Experience and Expertise

Davey Resource Group, Inc is the arboricultural and horticultural consulting subsidiary to The Davey Tree Expert Company. With extensive experience assisting private and commercial properties and other entities including municipalities and utilities, we work with asset managers around the country and provide customized solutions to managing and tracking vital environmental assets. Our urban forestry services have provided clients nationwide with the ability to accurately and sustainably manage their critical 'green' infrastructure.

The DRG team is devoted to providing excellent customer service through our technical expertise and our passion for innovative solutions. We recognize that our success depends on meeting your needs and we are excited about the opportunity to collaborate with you on your project. Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,



Moriah Day
Project Manager

Davey Resource Group, Inc.
ISA Certified Arborist NE-7281A
www.daveyresourcegroup.com



AUTHORIZATION TO PROCEED

The following pricing options have been developed for consultations and reports as requested. Any additional consultation or effort would be priced at our consulting rate of \$125 per hour. Any on-site supervision by an arborist outside the scope of work will require a three (3)-hour minimum charge.

Hill's Hill Tree Inventory

Description of Service	Contract Type	Price
Task 1: fieldwork and deliverables	Time and Materials	\$125 per hour Est. 48 hours
Project Total (Estimated)		\$6,000

By signing this form, I do hereby acknowledge acceptance of the scope of work and associated fee, as well as the terms and conditions and limited warranty contained herein. Furthermore, my signature authorizes the work to be performed effective the date of my signature and denotes that I am an authorized representative of the Client with authority to authorize and bind my company.

Client Name:

Authorizing Signature: _____

Name:

Title:

Date:

Phone Number:

Email:

Davey Resource Group, Inc.

Name/Title: Moriah Day / Project Manager

Date: 11/28/2023

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TERMS AND CONDITIONS

- All pricing is valid for 30 days from the date of this proposal, after which time we reserve the right to amend fees as needed.
- Time and materials (T&M) estimates will be billed using the labor rates in DRG's current commercial price list. Fixed Fee Contract Prices will be billed in monthly increments for the percentage of work completed in the billing period. Firm-Fixed Unit Prices will be billed in monthly increments for the number of completed units in the billing period.
- Payment terms are net 30 days.
- If prevailing wage requirements are discovered after the date of this proposal, we reserve the right to negotiate our fees.
- The client is responsible for any permit fees, taxes, and other related expenses, unless noted as being included in our proposal.
- The client shall provide 48 hours' notice of any meetings where the consultant's attendance is required.
- Unless otherwise stated, one round of revisions to deliverables is included in our base fee. Additional edits or revisions will be billed on a time and material (T&M) basis.
- All reports are provided only to the client unless otherwise directed.
- DRG is not responsible for determining parcel boundaries and cannot guarantee tree ownership.

LIMITED WARRANTY

Davey Resource Group, Inc. ("DRG") provides this limited warranty ("Limited Warranty") in connection with the provision of services by DRG (collectively the "Services") under the agreement between the parties, including any bids, orders, contracts, or understandings between the parties (collectively the "Agreement").

Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in the Agreement, this Limited Warranty will apply to all Services rendered by DRG and supersedes all other warranties in the Agreement and all other terms and conditions in the Agreement that conflict with the provisions of this Limited Warranty. Any terms or conditions contained in any other agreement, instrument, or document between the parties, or any document or communication from you, that in any way modifies the provisions in this Limited Warranty, will not modify this Limited Warranty nor be binding on the parties unless such terms and conditions are approved in a writing signed by both parties that specifically references this Limited Warranty.

Subject to the terms and conditions set forth in this Limited Warranty, for a period of ninety (90) days from the date Services are performed (the "Warranty Period"), DRG warrants to Customer that the Services will be performed in a timely, professional and workmanlike manner by qualified personnel.

To the extent the Services involve the evaluation or documentation ("Observational Data") of trees, tree inventories, natural areas, wetlands and other water features, animal or plant species, or other subjects

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(collectively, "Subjects"), the Observational Data will pertain only to the specific point in time it is collected (the "Time of Collection"). DRG will not be responsible nor in any way liable for (a) any conditions not discoverable using the agreed upon means and methods used to perform the Services, (b) updating any Observational Data, (c) any changes in the Subjects after the Time of Collection (including, but not limited to, decay or damage by the elements, persons or implements; insect infestation; deterioration; or acts of God or nature [collectively, "Changes"]), (d) performing services that are in addition to or different from the originally agreed upon Services in response to Changes, or (e) any actions or inactions of you or any third party in connection with or in response to the Observational Data. If a visual inspection is utilized, visual inspection does not include aerial or subterranean inspection, testing, or analysis unless stated in the scope of work. When performing tree inventories or assessments, DRG will not be liable for the discovery or identification of non-visually observable, latent, dormant, or hidden conditions or hazards, and does not guarantee that Subjects will be healthy or safe under all circumstances or for a specified period of time, or that remedial treatments will remedy a defect or condition.

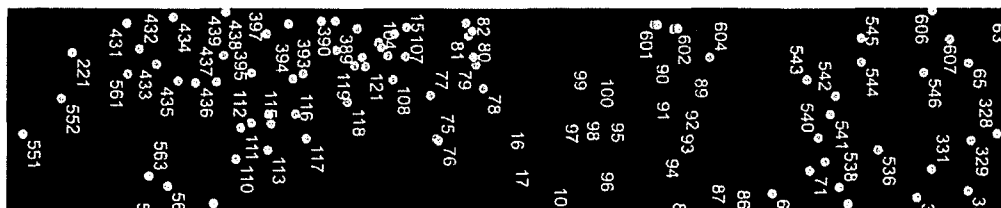
To the extent you request DRG's guidance on your permitting and license requirements, DRG's guidance represents its recommendations based on its understanding of and experience in the industry and does not guarantee your compliance with any particular federal, state or local law, code or regulation.

DRG may review information provided by or on behalf of you, including, without limitation, paper and digital GIS databases, maps, and other information publicly available or other third-party records or conducted interviews (collectively, "Source Information"). DRG assumes the genuineness of all Source Information. DRG disclaims any liability for errors, omissions, or inaccuracies resulting from or contained in any Source Information.

If it is determined that DRG has breached this Limited Warranty, DRG will, in its reasonable discretion, either: (i) re-perform the defective part of the Services or (ii) credit or refund the fees paid for the defective part of the Services. **This remedy will be your sole and exclusive remedy and DRG's entire liability for any breach of this Limited Warranty.** You will be deemed to have accepted all of the Services if written notice of an alleged breach of this Limited Warranty is not delivered to DRG prior to the expiration of the Warranty Period.

To the greatest extent permitted by law, except for this Limited Warranty, DRG makes no warranty whatsoever, including, without limitation, any warranty of merchantability or fitness for a particular purpose, whether express or implied, by law, course of dealing, course of performance, usage of trade or otherwise.

Appendix A: Sample Site Map



Inventory
Proposal
6 of 7

Re: Permit required for daycare to use public playground in Arlington?

Joe Connelly <jconnelly@town.arlington.ma.us>

Thu 12/14/2023 4:00 PM

To: Weitong Sun <swtswt11@gmail.com>

Cc: Jen Rothenberg <jenjenroth@gmail.com>

Hi Weitong,

I would be more than happy to talk to you about this, is there a time next week you have time for a phone call. Whomever is out there on social media stating we have anything against "kids in vests" is totally inaccurate. We have our own preschool program whose student wear vests! It is pretty simple, if a private school/day care is using town property as part of their regular curriculum then they should obtain a permit. We do the same for all Arlington youth sport groups including Arlington high school and middle school teams. It is no different. The intent is to first get an idea of who is actually using what facility. Once we get that information we may set a nominal fee, similar to our current field fees that all Arlington residents who play sports pay to help with field maintenance and portable restroom costs. All portable restrooms in town are paid for by the youth sport groups through this fee structure, including the units adjacent to playgrounds. Without committing myself to any number, the dollar amount being discussed is \$10 per licensed student. So if a typical school or day care is licensed for 52 students it may cost them \$520. Again we have no idea until we know exactly who is using what facility. All funds collected will go right back into playground maintenance.

Again, more than happy to discuss further just let me know a couple of days and times that might work for you. I have copied the Park Commission Vice Chair so she is aware of your concerns.

All the best,

Joseph Connelly, M.Ed.

Director of Recreation

Town of Arlington

781-316-3889

jconnelly@town.arlington.ma.us

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From: Weitong Sun <swtswt11@gmail.com>**Sent:** Thursday, December 14, 2023 3:44 PM**To:** Joe Connelly <jconnelly@town.arlington.ma.us>**Subject:** Permit required for daycare to use public playground in Arlington?

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

Hello

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I have heard the news that the Arlington Parks Commission is considering requiring permits for daycares to use playgrounds and park spaces with first-come first-serve basis because there are complaints of too many "kids in vests" on the playgrounds.

I would like to know if this is true. If yes, could you explain what exactly the procedure would be for the daycares? I'm just very concerned as a mother. If you care to spend the time reading about my worry and concern, here it is:

As a parent of a 17 month old, I find even this idea very disappointing to an Arlington parent. One of the kids in vests could very well be my child as it's our family choice to put her in daycare. By charging fees or requiring a permit that may not be available to all daycare programs, I feel the "daycare kids" are being discriminated against by those who have their parents, grandparents, nannies, or whoever could care for them at home during the day. It also made me worried that by enforcing this procedure and/or fee, some daycare may not take the kids outside during the day at all because they have nowhere to go outside to allow the kids to run around safely. We all know how vital the outdoor time is for children's physical and mental development.

Thanks
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